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April 22, 2010

BY ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown Chief, Section of Administration Surface Transportation Board 395 E Street, SW, Room #100 Washington, DC 20423-0001 ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

APR 2 2 2010

Part of
Public Record

Re: STB Docket No. AB-1043 (Sub-No. 1), Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway, Ltd. - Discontinuance of Service and Abandonment - In Aroostock and Penobscot Counties, ME

Dear Ms. Brown:

On April 5, 2010, the Surface Transportation Board ("Board") issued an order revising the procedural schedule originally established by the Board in its March 17, 2010, decision announcing the abandonment application in the above-captioned matter. This letter pertains to the procedural schedule currently in place.

Specifically, the Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway, Ltd. ("MMA"), with the concurrence of the State of Maine, by and through its Department of Transportation ("Maine DOT"), requests that the Board extend the existing procedural schedule for a period of 3 weeks. Maine DOT and MMA has agreed to enter into confidential mediation concerning the future of the line that is the subject of this proceeding, and believe that a suspension of the existing procedural schedule for this period of time would allow for the mediation discussions to proceed.

In connection with this 3-week extension, we anticipate that MMA's reply to protests and comments filed on April 21, 2010, would be due on May 26, 2010. Also, we envision, taking into account the July 4 holiday, that a final decision by the Board would be issued on July 9, 2010, and that the timing of offers of financial assistance would be adjusted accordingly. In addition, the Board could reschedule as it deems appropriate the hearing scheduled for May 10, 2010, in Presque Isle, Maine. Concerning discovery, we suggest that outstanding requests should be responded to in accordance with timeframes already in place.

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Maine DOT and MMA appreciate the Board's consideration of this request for a 3-week extension of the schedule to allow for these mediation discussions to proceed.

Sincerely,

Linda J. Morgan
Counsel for MMA

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LJM/vsf